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## The Scene

### CIA: From the folks who bring you national security

A Des Moines computer firm president met twice with the CIA last summer to discuss selling a computer program to the agency that can analyze news stories or the reporters who produced them, the Des Moines Sunday Register reported.

The Register said the CIA was interested in buying the computer program to analyze stories produced by the Associated Press and United Press International. The two services provide news reports to daily newspapers.

The CIA would not comment immediately on the story.

The newspaper described the computer program as a sophisticated plan for drawing personality profiles, and said the company president pulled out of the prospective deal because he wasn't certain the program could analyze news stories.

The company's vice president, Ellen Pirro, said the computer program implies that "what a man says is what he is."

— LINDA S. HERSKOWITZ